

Japan and Russia Engage in War

The long looked for oriental war is on land Russia and Japan are engaged in actual hostilities. After much delay and diplomatic sparring, Japan took matters into her own hands and precipitated war by a night attack on the Russian fleet in the harbor of Port Arthur. The attack resulted in a victory for the Japanese. Up to the present writing the following events have taken place.

Under cover of darkness the Japanese fleet made a rush to the mouth of the harbor of Port Arthur and by the use of torpedoes disabled three Russian warships, escaping without damage. Two Russian officers were wounded, nine men killed and forty-one wounded.

A second naval battle is reported at Chemulpo, in which one warship was sunk and another disabled.

Leading powers of Europe have announced their intention of maintaining neutrality.

The United States will sound the powers on the question of maintaining the integrity of China.

In a dispatch from Tien Tsin, dated February 9, a correspondent of the London Daily Mail says it is reported there that the Russian cruisers Variag and Koriets hauled down their flags without firing a shot, and that 8,000 Japanese immediately landed at Chemulpo and the march to Seoul commenced.

It is reported from Peking that the Japanese have disembarked at Chemulpo, notwithstanding the presence there of two Russian warships.

Japanese troops landed at the chief points of southern and western Korea. One division of the Japanese guards holds Fusan and Chemulpo, and altogether three divisions of the Japanese guards, each of 12,000 men, have been mobilized.

Russian warships at Vladivostock are reported ice-bound.

A telegram from Port Arthur under date of February 9, says that the Russian advance has commenced, General Krastalinsky will leave Lio-Yang for the Yalu river, at the head of the third brigade of artillery, consisting of twenty-four guns, and three regiments of infantry. The Third, Fourth and Fifth infantry brigades are entrenched along the railroad for a distance of forty miles from Hai-Cheng, and three batteries of the Fifth brigade are at Kin-Chou.

The greatest activity prevails at Port Arthur and new recruits are being enrolled with feverish haste.

A dispatch to the London Daily Mail from Tokio dated February 9, says that a plot is on foot at Seoul to bring 2,000 soldiers from Pen Yang to take the Korean emperor to the French legation, to which place the imperial treasury has already been conveyed.

Japan has added to its victories at Port Arthur and Chemulpo the capture of three transports containing 2,000 men.

At St. Petersburg there is the greatest excitement and expressions of loyalty are seen on every side. People anxiously await the news, which is slow in arriving. The Trans-Siberian telegraph line receives no commercial business. A rumor of Russian victory on the Yalu river is current. The czar has issued declarations of war.

At Paris the officials deny co-operating with Russia in Asia, but it is reported that France will not endorse the position taken by Secretary Hay, as it might hamper Russia in its program during the war.

At London Baron Hayashi gives an official account of the engagement in Chemulpo harbor and says that Japan is preparing for a land attack upon Port Arthur. The British ministry will issue a declaration of neutrality, probably tomorrow.

At Berlin there is much speculation as to the whereabouts of the new Japanese cruisers and it is expected that without full equipment they may attack Russian vessels enroute to the far east. Much interest is taken in the report of the battles and the inefficiency of the Russian force is commented upon.

At Washington Count Cassini has presented the czar's formal declaration of war upon Japan.

At Tokio the report of victory at Chemulpo and the capture of Russian soldiers is received and sent out.

Church Notes.

A series of revival meetings will begin at the Baptist church on Sunday evening. The services will be conducted by Rev. H. A. Ryder of Tekamah, Neb.

You are cordially invited to attend the regular service at the Presbyterian church on next Sunday morning at eleven and in the evening at 7:30. Rev. Spencer of Omaha will conduct the services.

The revival meetings conducted by E. E. Haskins are still in progress at the Brethren church. These meetings have attracted more than ordinary attention and have been productive of a great amount of good.

Quinquagesima Sunday, Feb. 14. Holy communion 7:30 a. m.; Sunday school 9:45 a. m.; Morning prayer and sermon 11 a. m. Subject for evening sermon "Conviction of Sin."—Henry B. Smith Rector, St Thomas church.

The choir boys of St. Thomas Episcopal church have fitted up the rooms in the basement of the church for their own use. The rooms have been nicely furnished and a gymnasium installed and they now have a fine place to meet together in a social manner. The boys are arranging for an oyster supper to be given at Ryans hall on Monday evening, February 15.

The usual services will be held on the coming Sunday at the Methodist church. Preaching both morning and evening by the pastor Wharton B. Alexander, Morning subject "This one thing I do." Evening subject "Thou God Seest me." Sunday school 9:45 a. m.; Junior League 3:00 p. m.; Epworth League 6:30 p. m.; regular mid-week prayer meeting Wednesday evening. A cordial invitation is extended all to attend these services.

Revival meetings are in progress at the Christian church. Good music is a part of the program each evening, as well as a series of pictures accompanied by a short lecture illustrating a recent tour of "The Holy Land" made by the pastor and his wife. Services as usual next Sunday. The meetings will continue all next week with a series of sermons on the conversion of great men. All are invited to attend.—J. Elza Holly, pastor.

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Lyric Bards of America.

The famous family of musicians have traveled in more cities and states of the United States and in more foreign countries, given more entertainments, appeared to more thousands of people, and have been more years in the work than any family of entertainers in the world. James DeMoss and wife and three small children, began giving concerts in Oregon in 1872, and three of the original members of the company with their companions compose the present organization. This entertainment will be given at the Methodist church on Friday evening Feb. 19, 1904. It will consist of both vocal and instrumental selections. A great variety of instruments will be used. Geo. DeMoss will perform the difficult task of playing on two cornets at the same time. This promises to be one of the choicest entertainments ever given in this city. Proceeds for the benefit of the church. Tickets will be on sale at Burris' drug store, Geo. Holts, and V. G. Lyfords stores. Price of admission 25cts, children 15cts and reserved seats 35cts.

Prosecute a Bank.

The Cordell, (O. T.) Sentinel says: "Attorneys Duff & Weaver are going after the Hobart National bank upon a charge of usury. It is charged that the bank shaved some notes for the defunct firm of Hulet Bros., of Port, and in doing so it went in deeper than the statutes in cases will allow. This firm of attorneys are pretty sure to be right before they go ahead, and when started must be whipped before they lay down and the chances are that if the bank is not convicted it will realize it has been in a lawsuit before it gets out of trouble."

The Weaver end of the firm of Duff & Weaver, attorneys is Paul Weaver, a Falls City boy and a brother of A. J. Weaver. It is evident that Paul and his partner have been making a reputation for themselves.

Successful Opera.

The opera, "The House that Jack Built" given under the auspices of the Christian church on last Thursday evening, was very good. The entertainment was directed by Mrs. Minnie Moritz and the children who took part all did exceptionally well. The public will be pleased to learn that the opera is to be repeated in the near future.

WANTED

100 Bushels Sweet Corn at Heck's Feed Store. Will pay \$1.00 per bushels.

J. J. Bauer of Verdon was in town on business yesterday.